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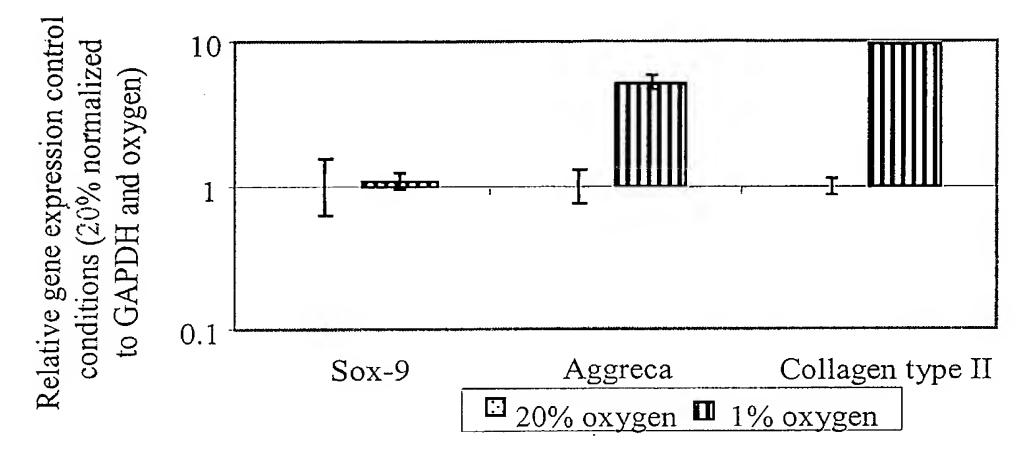
#### **Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TREATMENT OF SPINAL CONDITIONS

Gene expression in MSSC cells cultured in monolayer for 2 weeks under varying oxygen concentrations



Sox-9 Aggreca Collagen type II

20% oxygen 1% oxygen

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to isolated mesenchymal stromal stem cell (MSSC) that has been differentiated in vitro towards, or to, an intervertebral disc (IVD) cell phenotype for use as medicaments. The cells may be used to treat spinal conditions characterized by degeneration of the intervertebral disc. The cells may also be genetically transformed with an exogenous gene coding for a protein that reduces degeneration of an intervertebral disc.

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